Texas Workforce Press Release

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MEDIA CONTACT: Lisa Givens **DATE:** June 16, 2016 **PHONE:** 512-463-8556

Architectural Consortium Partners with Cedar Valley College for \$624,504 Job-Training Grant

AUSTIN – An Architectural consortium has partnered with Cedar Valley College to provide job training for 274 new and incumbent workers using a \$624,504 Skills Development Fund grant from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC). The grant will benefit workers in the Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas, Tarrant County and North Central Texas areas.



TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar presented a \$624,504 Skills Development Fund grant to representatives from the Architectural Consortium and Cedar Valley College (CVC).

Pictured from left (in front): CVC Associate Vice President of Workforce Development & Continuing Education Dr. Jean Morciglio, Workforce Solutions Greater Dallas President Laurie Bouillion Larrea, Dallas County Community College District Chancellor Dr. Joe May, TWC Chairman Alcantar, CVC President Dr. Jennifer Wimbish. Remaining individuals represent the architecture firms in the Architectural consortium.

Photo courtesy of Cedar Valley College

This grant will be used to provide customized training to 274 new and incumbent workers. As of 2013, all new building projects in Dallas must meet minimum requirements of the Dallas Green Construction Code, Leadership in Energy Environmental Design (LEED) or certified under an equivalent green-building standard. This has increased demand for architects with sustainable knowledge for 22 of the metroplex architectural, construction and design firms. Classes and training will focus on structural systems, residential, healthcare, retail and sustainability designs. Trainees will include architects, drafters, interior designers, design associates and project managers. Upon completion of training, the workers will receive an average wage of \$38.70.

"Skills grants deliver customized training solutions that help Texas employers and workers succeed in the marketplace," said TWC Chairman Andres Alcantar. "This investment builds not only employee skills, but the capabilities of our community colleges to the benefit of employers and the community. We are pleased to make this investment."

The Skills Development Fund grant program is celebrating 20 years of success as the state's premier training program in 2015-16. The fund was initiated by the Legislature in September of 1995 and first began awarding contracts in 1996. During that time the Skills Development Fund grants have created or upgraded more than 329,333 jobs throughout Texas. The grants have assisted 4,141 employers with their customized training needs. The Legislature allocated \$48.5 million to the Skills Development Fund for the 2016-17 biennium. Employers seeking more information about the Skills Development Fund may visit the TWC website at www.texasworkforce.org/skills.

Cedar Valley College contact: Director of Marketing Henry Martinez, 972-860-8142 or hmartienz@dcccd.edu.

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The Texas Workforce Commission is a state agency dedicated to helping Texas employers, workers and communities prosper economically. For details on TWC and the services it offers in coordination with its network of local workforce development boards, call 512-463-8942 or visit www.texasworkforce.org. To receive notifications about TWC programs and services subscribe to our email updates.